

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, NO (SEMMERUD, ARNE)

SUBJ: REQUEST FOR FACILITATIVE ASSISTANCE

SUMMARY. STATE LABOR DEPARTMENT ASSISTANCE IS REQUESTED FOR ARNE SEMMERUD OF THE TRADE UNION DIVISION OF THE NORWEGIAN WORKERS' EDUCATION ASSOCIATION TO PLAN AND ARRANGE A THREE OR FOUR WEEK VISIT TO THE US TO STUDY WORK ENVIRONMENT (HEALTH AND SAFETY) PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS, INCLUDING LEGISLATION AND ITS ENFORCEMENT, TRADE UNION ACTIVITIES, ETC., WITH PARTICULAR FOCUS ON ASBESTOS AND POLIVINYL CHLORIDE (PVC). LABOR DEPARTMENT ALSO REQUESTED TO AIR POUCH MATERIALS ON US HEALTH AND SAFETY LEGISLATION AND ASBESTOS AND PVC PROBLEMS FOR HIM TO STUDY BEFORE TRIP. MR SEMMERUD HAS A \$1,600 GRANT FROM HIS ORGANIZATION TO COVER INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL PLUS COSTS IN US. HE HOPES TO TRAVEL IMMEDIATELY AFTER MAY 1. END SUMMARY.

1. ELEMENTS MR. SEMMERUD AND EMBASSY FEEL SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN PROGRAM ARE CONSULTATION WITH: LABOR DEPARTMENT OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY ADMINISTRATION (OSHA), NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF SAFETY AND HEALTH (NIOSH), TRADE UNIONS SUCH AS RUBBER WORKERS, OCAW AND BUILDING TRADES UNIONS HANDLING ASBESTOS IN CONSTRUCTION, AND RELEVANT RESEARCH SPECIALISTS OF MOUNT SINAI SCHOOL OF MEDICINE. HE IS INTERESTED IN NEW FEDERAL HEALTH AND SAFETY LEGISLATION AND ITS IMPLEMENTATION, STATE-FEDERAL

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RELATIONSHIPS, COLLECCTIVE BARGAINING APPROACHES TO

HEALTH, SAFETY AND WORK ENVIRONMENT (INCLUDING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN OCAW AND AMERICAN OIL INVOLVING RESEARCH AT WORKPLACE), RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN TRADE UNIONS AND RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS AND INTERNAL TRADE UNION INFORMATION AND EDUCATION IN HEALTH AND SAFETY. HE ALSO WANTS TO LEARN ABOUT TRADE UNION EDUCATION AND INFORMATION ACTIVITIES IN GENERAL, ADULT EDUCATION AND THE TRADE UNION MOVEMENT'S RELATION THERETO. (WORKERS' EDUCATION ASSOCIATION IS NORWEGIAN LABOR MOVEMENT'S ORGANIZATION FOR TRADE UNION AND POLITICAL EDUCATION AS WELL AS FOR GOVERNMENT-FUNDED ADULT EDUCATION THROUGHOUT NORWAY). MR. SEMMERUD IS CONVERSANT WITH RESEARCH AND EXPERIENCED AT THE NORSK HYDRO PVC PLANT AT HEROYA IN NORWAY, WHICH WAS RECENTLY REOPENED AFTER A STUDY, AND WITH TRADE UNION RESEARCH AND EXPERIENCE IN HEALTH AND SAFETY IN ALL INDUSTRIES.

2. MR. SEMMERUD PREFERS MODERATELY-PRICED ACCOMODATIONS TO STRETCH FUNDS AND IS HAPPY TO TRAVEL BY BUS WHENEVER THIS WILL SAVE FUNDS WITHOUT LOSING TOO MUCH TIME.

3. MR. SEMMERUD WAS BORN SEPTEMBER 27, 1933, IN OSLO. HE HAS BEEN A TAXI DRIVER AND OFFICIAL OF THE TRANSPORT WORKERS' UNION. HE DID POLITICAL EDUCATION WORK FOR THE NORWEGIAN TRADE UNION FEDERATION (LO) IN CONNECTION WITH THE COMMON MARKET REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN AND OTHER ISSUES DURING 1972, SPENT A YEAR OR TWO AS A DISTRICT SECRETARY FOR THE WORKERS' EDUCATION ASSOCIATION IN HORDALAND PROVINCE OUTSIDE BERGEN, AND IS NOT NATIONAL "WORK ENVIRONMENT" SECRETARY FOR THE WORKERS' EDUCATION ASSOCIATION. HE HAS WRITTEN TWO PAMPHLETS AND SEVERAL NEWSPAPER ARTICLES ON "WORK ENVIRONMENT" AND WILL DO ANOTHER PAMPHLET BASED ON HIS TRIP AND STUDY. HE IS ALSO AN ALTERNATE MEMBER OF THE OSLO CITY COUNCIL FOR THE LABOR PARTY.
BYRNE

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